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NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK

Celebrating the First Responders of First Response

HRECC Celebrates National Public Safety Telecommunicator's Week

April 4, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Harrisonburg, $VA - April\ 8 - 15$ is recognized as National Public Safety Telecommunicator's Week. During this week the dedicated employees of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Emergency Communications Center (HRECC) are honored and recognized for the work they do to keep our community safe.

This is also an opportunity to remind members of the public of the importance of the services HRECC provides and what to expect when needing those services in the event of an emergency.

"Public safety communicators are the "first," first responders," said Jim Junkins, director of HRECC. "Our staff works tiressly to provide help in all types of situations each and every day."

During 2017, the HRECC processed 252,352 telephone transactions and 132,521 incidents were dispatched to emergency responders. In addition to these numbers, the HRECC staff answers a variety of non-emergency phone inquiries and has other duties to assist public safety providers in the field.

As part of this week the HRECC will be selecting one employee as the 2017 communicator of the year during an awards ceremony taking place on **Wednesday**, **April 11 at 3:00 p.m.** at the HRECC, 101 North Main Street (5th floor). Other recognitions will also be made during this event.

This is an opportunity to recognize and thank HRECC staff as they play a vital role in ensuring the safety of our community and to the public safety responders. Follow the HRECC on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u> for special features next week.

Contact Dee Dee Sencindiver at ddsencindiver@hrecc.org or 540-830-9113 with questions.

*Note to the media: You are invited and encouraged to attend. Staff will also be available for interviews and pictures, if needed.

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The HRECC is staffed with 52 employees and provides 24/7/365 service to the City of Harrisonburg, Rockingham County and the Towns within the County. They provide dispatching services for 9 law enforcement agencies, 19 fire agencies and 17 rescue agencies. To learn more about the HRECC, visit hrecc.org.